

Amendments to the Claims

1 - 24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) A method of preventing or treating degradation of collagen comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of ~~a compound formed according to the method of claim 17~~ trans-10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid to a patient in need.

26. (Currently Amended) A method of preventing or treating degradation of collagen by bacterial collagenases during a bacterial infection comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of ~~a compound formed according to claim 17~~ trans-10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid to a patient in need.

27. (Currently Amended) A method of regenerating ~~skin and~~ ligaments comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of ~~a compound produced according to claim 17~~ trans-10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid to a patient in need.

28. (Currently Amended) A method of preventing or treating tumoral invasion comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of ~~a compound produced according to claim 17~~ trans-10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid to a patient in need.

29. (Currently Amended) A method of preventing or treating degenerative diseases having fibrinoid degeneration of collagen comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of ~~a compound produced according to claim 17~~ trans-10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid to a patient in need.

30. (Currently Amended) A method of reducing weight in a patient in need thereof comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of ~~a compound made according to the method of claim 17~~ trans-10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid to the patient.

31. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein the trans-10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid is administered in the form of a composition comprising the trans-10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid and at least one pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable excipient.

32. (New) The method according to claim 31, wherein the excipient is hydrocerin.

33. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein the collagen degradation is caused at least in part by proteolytic collagenase.

34. (New) The method according to claim 26, wherein the trans-10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid is administered in the form of a composition comprising the trans-10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid and at least one pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable excipient.

35. (New) The method according to claim 34, wherein the excipient is hydrocerin.

36. (New) The method according to claim 27, wherein the trans-10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid is administered in the form of a composition comprising the trans-10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid and at least one pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable excipient.

37. (New) The method according to claim 36, wherein the excipient is hydrocerin.

38. (New) The method according to claim 28, wherein the trans-10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid is administered in the form of a composition comprising the trans-10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid and at least one pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable excipient.

39. (New) The method according to claim 38, wherein the excipient is hydrocerin.

40. (New) The method according to claim 28, wherein the tumoral invasion is associated with an overexpression of collagenase by invasive or metastatic tumor cells.

41. (New) The method according to claim 29, wherein the trans-10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid is administered in the form of a composition comprising the trans-10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid and at least one pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable excipient.

42. (New) The method according to claim 41, wherein the excipient is hydrocerin.
43. (New) The method according to claim 30, wherein the trans-10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid is administered in the form of a composition comprising the trans-10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid and at least one pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable excipient.
44. (New) The method according to claim 43, wherein the excipient is hydrocerin.